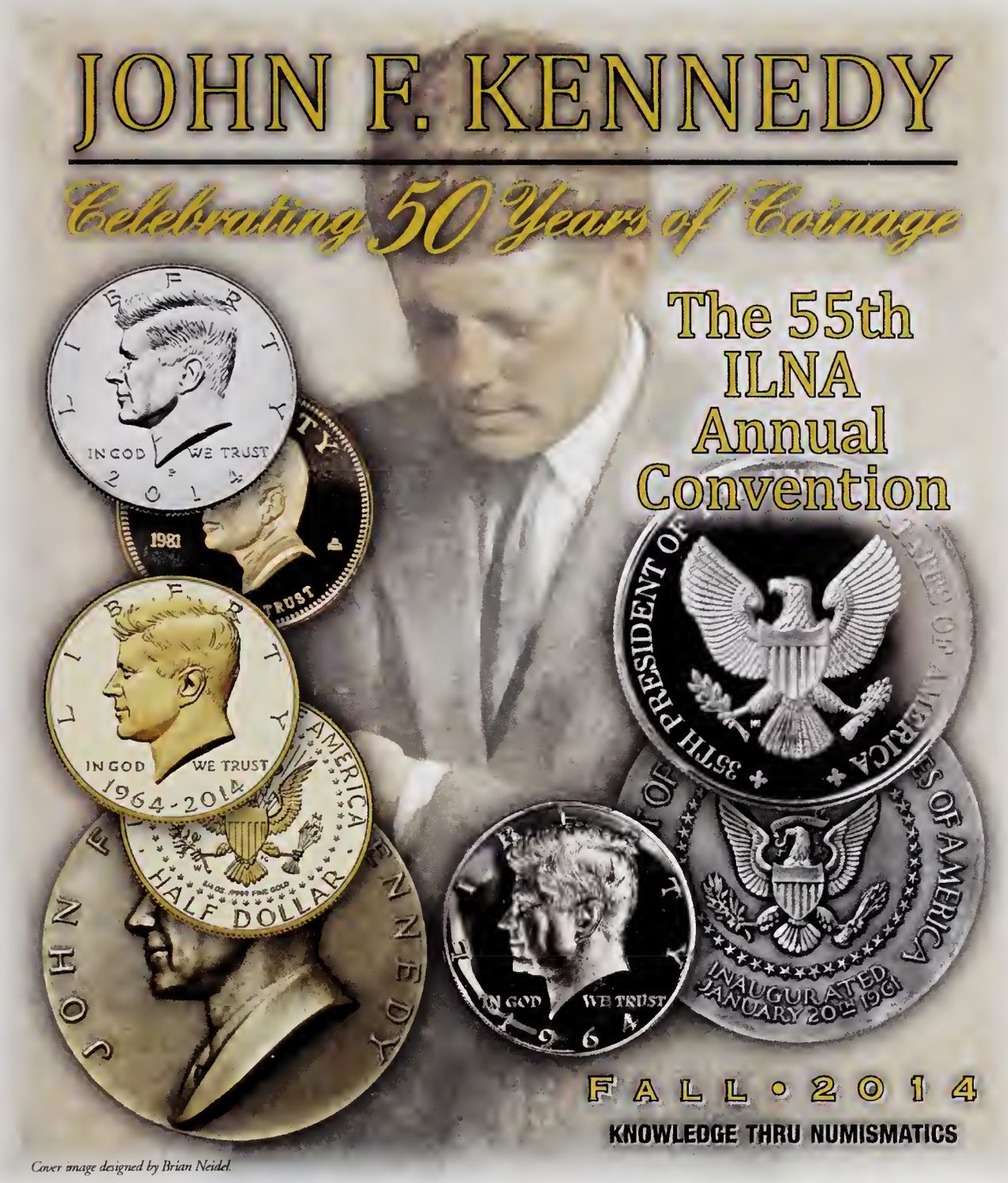


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ILNA Coin Digest

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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ILNA Coin Digest

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT

Steve Harrison

Dear ILNA Members,

I hope everyone is having a good summer. It looks like we have a great show planned again for you this year. With the ANA weeklong show one month before ours, it's been very difficult to maintain interest in coin shows in the Illinois area, but we are doing our best to make our show special and different to keep the interest up. Working with Chicago Coin Club we have another great lineup of educational programs for Friday and Saturday. A Meeting and Seminar Schedule can be found on page 8 of this *Digest*. Please check our website for the latest updated schedule of times and topics. We are also fortunate to have talks from the Early American Copper Society as well as a talk from one of the top experts in our industry, Mr. Larry Briggs, talking about counterfeit coins on Saturday. You don't want to miss this one.

I would like to take a second to personally thank two board members that are stepping down from the board this year. First, Brian Heil: his knowledge of the law as well as his many years of experience as a coin dealer in Chicago has been a great help in working with ILNA on many different issues. Tim Guest is stepping down from the board and as our *Digest* Editor. His time and commitment to making our *Digest* a top-notch publication will be greatly missed. Our *Digest* is considered one of the best in the industry. We owe a great deal of thanks to Tim for getting us where we are now from where we were when he took over the position. Thanks again to both of you for your service to the ILNA Board.

I hope to see all of our membership come out and support our annual show. Please feel free to stop by my booth and share your thoughts on how we as a board and an organization are doing. Your input is very important– please also stop by on the Friday of our Fall Convention for our open general board meeting at 4:00 PM held on the bourse floor of the show. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the show!

Sincerely,

Steve Harrison,

President of the Illinois Numismatic Association

kedziekoin@aol.com

ILNA SECRETARY

John Schikora

It's that time of year again– ILNA's 55th Annual Fall Convention is just around the corner. Promising to be another active coin bourse, Jim and Joyce Paicz have been working fervently on the final touches for a show with plenty of numismatic enjoyment for everyone. Hosting a wide array of dealers specializing in coins and currency from the United States and around the world, the show should satisfy every attendee looking for that particular numismatic item. Educational seminars made possible through the help of the Chicago Coin Club will be presented daily. The annual youth auction will be held on Saturday, September 13th at 1:00pm. Items generously donated by show dealers will provide many auction lots for kids to bid on. Parents are encouraged to bring their kids early for a chance to earn extra auction dollars by answering numismatic questions asked by designated dealers.

I attended the ANA World's Fair of Money (held August 5th thru 9th at the Rosemont Convention Center) Tuesday thru Thursday thru a flurry of activity on the bourse floor. The big buzz was all about the 24 karat gold Kennedy Half Dollars. The U.S. Mint announced it would sell 500 coins per day– starting Monday evening there were over 2000 people camping out for the chance to obtain one of the first 500 coins to be sold at 11 AM Tuesday morning. With a limit of one coin to a customer, those fortunate enough to purchase a coin had the opportunity to sell their $1240 purchase for as high as $3600– an excellent return on investment for a night of lost sleep! The waiting line for Wednesday's sales began late Tuesday afternoon with the number of people growing. By Wednesday, the number of people amassed to where police had trouble with crowd control. Unfortunately, sales were halted Thursday for public safety reasons due to riots while waiting in line on Wednesday. Once again ILNA hosted a club table at the ANA to promote the organization and enroll new members. At this time ILNA would like to thank the ANA for the complimentary club table and the members who manned the booth during the convention.

The summer board meeting brought news that ILNA membership had dropped to 380 members. Many junior members have not renewing their memberships. Youth are allowed to join ILNA at no cost for the first year made possible through the generosity of Jade Rare Coins. Afterwards, membership renewal for juniors is $2.00 per year. As kids grow, their interests change. Hopefully by regularly attending coin shows and reading the youth ambassador letters they will remain focused in numismatics and discover the rewards of coin collecting. The regular membership fee for adults is still $10.00 for one year or $18.00 for two years. ILNA members are encouraged to approach their friends about joining the organization. Membership applications can be found on page 7 in this issue of the *Digest* or a pdf form can be printed from the ILNA website at www.ilnaclub.info.

In closing, I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and please make a point to attend the ILNA show September 11th thru 13th. You'll be glad you did.

Thank you,

John Schikora, ILNA Secretary

jschikora@att.net

ILNA



Illinois Numismatic Association

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for membership in the Illinois Numismatic Association. This application is subject to the Constitution & By-Laws of the Association.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Date of Birth _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail _____

Occupation _____

Numismatic Specialty _____

Numismatic Affiliations _____

Applicant Signature _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (CHECK ONE)

REGULAR (1 Year) - $10.00

JUNIOR (1 Year) - $2.00

REGULAR (2 Year) - $18.00

RENEWAL

LIFE - $200.00*

*As per ILNA Constitution and By-Laws, you must be a member in good standing for at least 1 year and approved by the Board of Governors.

Please complete form, include dues payable to ILNA and mail to:
Joyce Paicz – Membership Chairman
P.O. Box 628, Richton Park, IL60471

ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

55th COIN & CURRENCY SHOW
SEPTEMBER 11, 12 & 13, 2014

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Show Hours: Thurs. 12Noon to 6PM - Fri. 9AM to 7PM - Sat. 9AM to 4PM
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Early Birds: Thurs. 9AM to 12Noon - Fri. 8AM to 9AM - Sat. 8AM to 9AM

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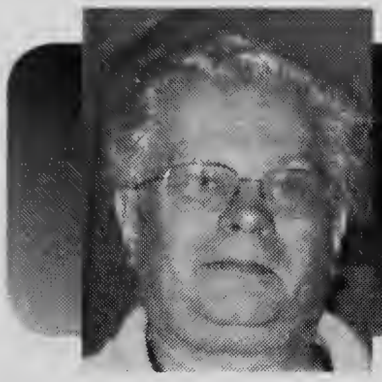
SEMINAR & MEETING SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

1:00 PM - Early American Copper Society
4:00 PM - ILNA General Meeting
5:00 PM - The How to of eBay Buying & Selling in 2014
5:30 PM - Precious Metal Buying & Selling Coins in 2014

SATURDAY

9:00 AM - Kids Treasure Hunt
9:00 AM - Counterfeit Coins- Larry Briggs
9:30 AM - The ABC's of Youth Collecting
11:00 AM - Precious Metal Buying & Selling in 2014
12:00 PM - eBay Shipping & Selling Internationally
1:00 PM - Youth Auction
1:00 PM - Bitcoins



A NOTE FROM BOURSE CHAIRMAN

Jim Paicz

Hi Folks,

Because we are busy preparing for our 55th Annual Fall Convention, this will be a short note. Can you believe it's already here? The show announcement on the page to the left will have all the current information about the show as of press time. Watch the ILNA website for all the latest updates– you won't want to miss anything!

Dealers: The show is filling up fast– I mailed out 70 applications a week ago and we should sell out the show in days. This is ILNA's only fund raiser and we do everything we can to produce one of the finest State shows in the land. Come out and support the best dealers in the country; they come near and far.

Fall Convention Seminars: I want to give a special thanks to *Chicago Coin Club* again for assisting in putting together the educational portion of our program and to Larry Briggs for his efforts also. These guys do a great job in growing our *Knowledge thru Numismatics* and provide a great service for our membership. If you are fortunate enough to come to one of the seminars, please remember to thank the speaker for a job well done.

We will be the host for *The Early American Copper Society* meeting again on Friday at 1:00 PM.

Our Youth Program will be great as always on Saturday, with *The Treasure Hunt* starting at 9:00 AM, a Youth Seminar at 9:30 AM and the Youth Auction at 1:00 PM with registration for the auction starting at Noon.

We will have an ILNA Board Meeting open to the membership at 4:00 PM Friday on the Bourse Floor. Come see what your club is up to and meet the Board Members. Tell us what you like and don't like about what we do. It is your club. Stop by my tables and say "Hi," if there's something you'd like to talk about.

Well, lots to do, so I am off to get it done. Thanks for your cooperation and come to the show. There will be something for everyone and we are sure you'll enjoy it!

Thank you–

Jim Paicz

Bourse Chairman

paiczj@aol.com



Introducing the Events of ILNA's 55th Annual Convention

LATEST UPDATES AT WWW.ILNACLUB.INFO

September is here. Summer is taking a final smile and wink with the kids gearing up for a new fall semester. For the Illinois Numismatic Association, that means the time of our finest hours throughout the year. It is a time to celebrate our hobby and our efforts to share *Knowledge Thru Numismatics* across the State of Illinois. We proudly offer to you our 55th Annual Coin and Currency Show, *Celebrating the Life of President John F. Kennedy and Fifty Years of Coinage*. ILNA's Board of Governors and Bourse Chairman Jim Paicz welcome our members, dealers and the general public for what promises to be an informative and eventful bourse.

Much of what we share in our seminar program is due to the efforts of members of the *Chicago Coin Club*. ILNA extends a special thanks as they have prepared a seminar schedule designed to be very timely and practical for people involved with coins considering changes in our hobby due to today's tech-heavy world.

Besides the heavy educational programming the ILNA Convention provides, there will also be an open board meeting on the Bourse Floor at 4PM Friday afternoon. Check out the business end of your statewide numismatic organization. Members in good standing as well as those thinking of joining ILNA are welcome to attend.

At 1:00 PM Friday, the Early American Copper Society (EAC) will be holding a meeting in conjunction with the show. EAC collectors focus on early U.S. copper coins such as Colonials, Half Cents, Large Cents, and Hard Times Tokens. For more about the EAC, visit them on the web: www.eacs.org.

Chicago Coin Club seminars begin at 5:00 PM Friday with a continually relevant topic in today's coin market: *The How To of ebay Buying & Selling in 2014*. This presentation shares the best updated information affecting buyer and seller responsibilities on ebay. For the committed ebay seller, *ebay Shipping & Selling Internationally* will discuss the ins and outs of safe international transactions at noon Saturday.

Something for all? YES– especially for the young collector and families on Saturday. Beginning at 9:00 AM, all the youth attending the ILNA Fall Convention will want to be involved in the Treasure Hunt and afterward, attend the Youth Auction at 1:00 PM. Parents who want to move their kids in the right direction may want to consider the *Chicago Coin Club's ABC's of Youth Collecting*, for their aspiring young numismatists.

And for the bigger kids: Saturday at 9AM, nationally known numismatic author and leading authenticator Larry Briggs introduces the latest information on *Counterfeit Detection* with an emphasis on Chinese fakes and an explanation of die stages complete with actual examples, known die characteristics, deceptive toning and weight discrepancies. For currency collectors, Saturday at 11AM, Jeff Paunicka of *Insight3* will explore *Currency Doctoring Detection*. Jeff will discuss deceptive methods and the best ways to spot them in this informative course.

Closing the seminars on Saturday at 1:00 PM, the *Chicago Coin Club* will teach about *Bitcoin*. We are already receiving calls about this– Everyone is curious to learn more about virtual money, its origins and how it may eventually affect our hobby and businesses. This may be the one you won't want to miss. For all the latest information about the 55th Annual Convention, visit **www.ilnaclub.info**. See you there! ✻

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Early Birds Thurs. 9AM to 12 Noon

Tables starting at $275 for all three days, Early Bird Badges $50
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Website: www.chicagocoinshow.com

2014 50TH ANNIVERSARY KENNEDY HALF-DOLLAR GOLD PROOF COIN

As Featured at the U.S. Mint Website:

http://catalog.usmint.gov



Editor's Note: *Photos and text are Public Domain as published originally on the U.S. Mint website. Possibly the largest news story at the ANA, 2014.*

Obverse: A portrait of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the youngest-ever-elected president. United States Mint Chief Engraver Gilroy Roberts based this profile on a portrait prepared for Kennedy's presidential medal.

Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Kennedy half-dollar, the United States Mint will offer its first-ever gold half-dollar.

It features the original 1964 obverse (heads) design created by United States Mint Chief Engraver Gilroy Roberts with a special 1964-2014 inscription.

An initial inventory of 40,000 coins will be available for sale on August 5 through various sales channels. The United States Mint will evaluate sales activity during the first week and make adjustments to its production schedule accordingly.

Each coin contains ¾ troy ounce of pure, 24-karat gold and is struck with a proof finish at the United States Mint at West Point, New York.



The raised Kennedy profile is frosted and appears to float on the mirror-like background.

The coins are encapsulated and packaged in a single custom-designed, brown mahogany hardwood presentation case with removable coin well and are accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity.



Reverse: Based on the Presidential Seal and was created by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Frank Gasparro. It consists of a heraldic eagle with a shield on its breast holding a symbolic olive branch and bundle of 13 arrows. It features the inscriptions UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HALF DOLLAR and ¾ OZ. .9999 FINE GOLD. A ring of 50 stars surrounds the design, which gives this coin the distinction of having more stars than any other U.S. coin ever produced for circulation. ✻

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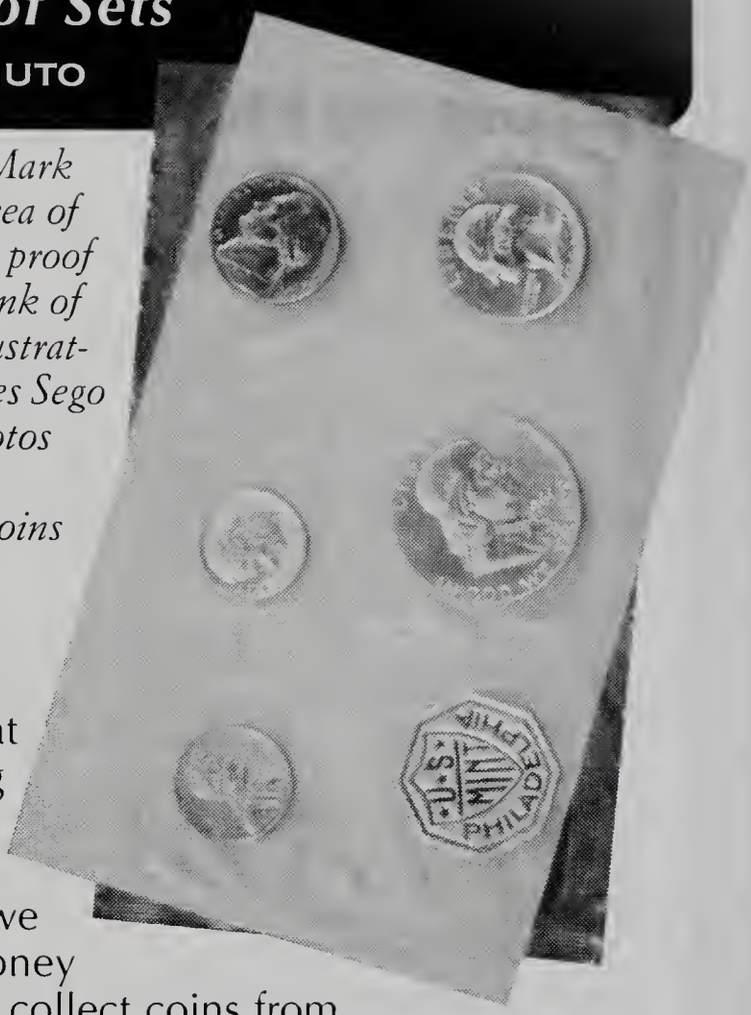
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Reassembling Four Excellent Proof Sets

BY MARK BENVENUTO



Nationally known numismatic scribe Mark Benvenuto explores with us another area of affordable numismatics: The attractive proof coins of the early 1960's. I couldn't think of a better company to call for help in illustrating Mark's essay than JMS Coins' James Sego and Gary Knaus who provided the photos included herein. ILNA extends special thanks to Mark Benvenuto and JMS Coins for their efforts in sharing Knowledge Thru Numismatics.

Two aspects of collecting coins that appeal to many of us: Collecting series that have passed into history and assembling collections of the best possible coins one can get. If we are honest with ourselves– if money were no object– most of us would collect coins from the nineteenth century as opposed to the twentieth and collect mint state specimens as opposed to circulated pieces. So it might come as a surprise to a few of us to know that we can have our cake and eat it too, as it were, in collecting proof sets from the first few years of the 1960's.

The Proofs of 1961

It was the year 1957 in which the one million coin mark was surpassed when it came to the United States Mint production of proof sets. At that time, all proof coins were produced in the main mint in Philadelphia. It wasn't until 1968 that proof sets came roaring out of the branch mint on the west coast, in San Francisco. The total dipped below that million mark in 1958, but by the time 1961 rolled around, the official tally was way up... 3,028,244 coins! It remains one of the higher numbers in the listing of modern proofs.

Back in the early 1960's, proof sets were basically packaged in thin, flexible plastic packs which could easily be taken apart. No one knows how many proof sets were taken out of their cases, either to be placed in more permanent ones, or to be disassembled so that each coin could find a place among others like it– perhaps in the standard blue folders of the day. Thus today, the challenge is to reassemble a set.

"Excellent Proof Sets" continued on page 16.

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"Excellent Proof Sets" continued.



The price tags for the smaller denominations in this proof set, as well as the other three we'll look at, are not generally too high, unless you shoot for grades like PF-67 or higher. The 1961 cent for example can be had for about $10. Believe it or not, the Jefferson nickel costs even less, and that is in a grade such as PF-67. Likewise, the Roosevelt dime of 1961 doesn't cost any more than $10, unless again you are shooting for the stars.

One might imagine the Washington quarter and the Franklin half dollar are going to be the two expensive pieces when it comes to reassembling a proof set for 1961. Anyone who makes that assumption though will be only half right though. Despite the quarter having 0.18084 ounces of silver in it, it still runs only about $10 when we are talking a PF-66 or PF-67 example. That leaves the Franklin half, and yes, the price is higher for the big gun of this quintet of proofs. But it's not a fortune. A PF-67 specimen does cost about $100, but if you go for a lower example, such as a PF-65, the price dives to about $30.

All in all, it's not too expensive a proposition to reassemble a 1961 proof set. The prices we just quoted add up to about $140.



The Proofs of 1962

The year 1962 saw a slight increase in the number of proof sets to an official total of 3,218,019. This doesn't make or cause a change in the price tags of any of the denominations really–with one exception. The Franklin half dollar, as a PF-67 specimen, drops in price to about $80. That means we can reassemble one of these proof sets for only $120 give or take a bit, assuming you find something amazing like a PF-68 or PF-69 example of one of the smaller coins.

"Excellent Proof Sets" cont'd, pg 18.

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RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Bettange, Mr. de. – **Traite des Monoyes, Conte-Nant des Instructions Pour la Partie des Monoyes, un Frecueil des Especes D'or & D'argent Fabriquees Depuis Pharamond Jusqu'a Present, Leur Titre, Poids et Valeur**, 1760A. Avignon, France, A rare work on coining.

Mehl, B. Max – **Catalogue of the Morse, Faelton and Todd Collections**, June 23, 1936, Fort Worth, Deluxe leather-bound edition, one of only four known copies. Inscribed by Mehl to T. James Clarke. Rare.

Newcomb, Howard R. – **The United States Cents of the Years 1801 – 1802 – 1803**, 1925, Detroit, Deluxe leather-bound edition, one of ten copies issued and only 5 known today, ex Armand Champa. Rare.

Mehl, B. Max – **The William Cutler Atwater Collection**, June 11, 1946, Fort Worth, Deluxe leather-bound edition, one of only five or six copies produced, ex A. W. Buehring. Rare.

Young, James Rankin – **United States Mint at Philadelphia**, 1903, Philadelphia, heavily illustrated.

Oliver, Nancy Y. & Richard G. Kelly – **The Inconspicuous Gold Rush Mint – San Francisco 1854-1974**, 2014, Hayward, CA.

Sullivan, Michael J. – **An Annotated Bibliography of United States Individual and State Bank Histories 1878 – 2000**, 2013, South Freeport, Maine, #12 of 100.

Ferguson, Mark – **The Dollar of 1804, The U.S. Mint's Hidden Secret**, 2014.

Berlin, Howard M. – **The Numismatourist**, 2014, Irvine, CA. A worldwide travel guide to museums, mints, and other places of interest for the numismatists.

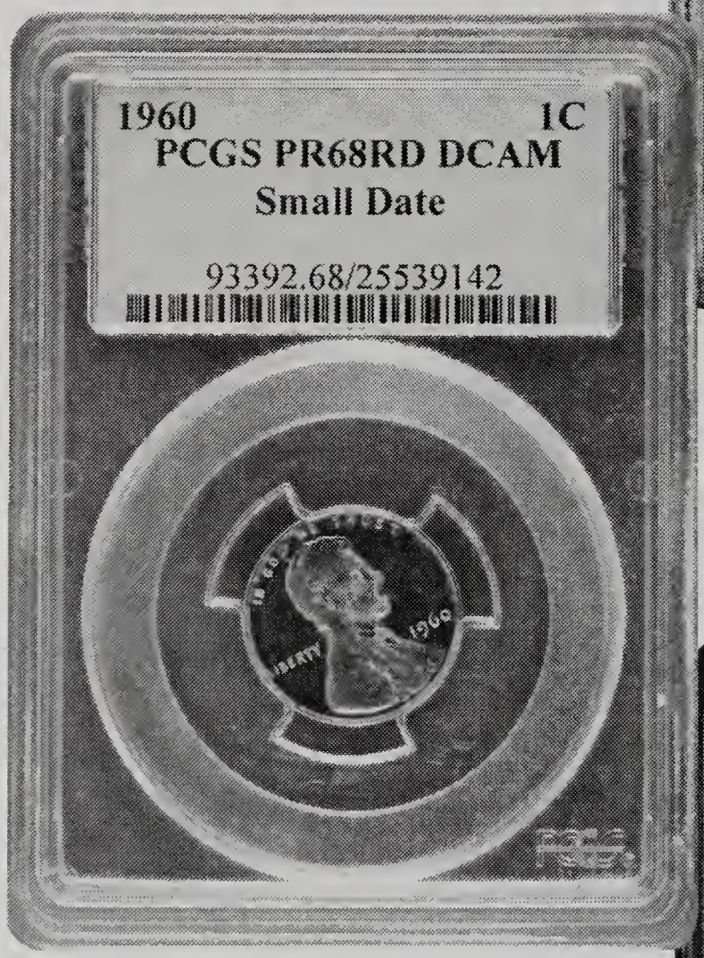
Platt, Jerome J. & Arleen Kay Platt – **The English Civil Wars – Medals, Historical Commentary & Personalities**, 2013, Spink, London, 2 volumes.

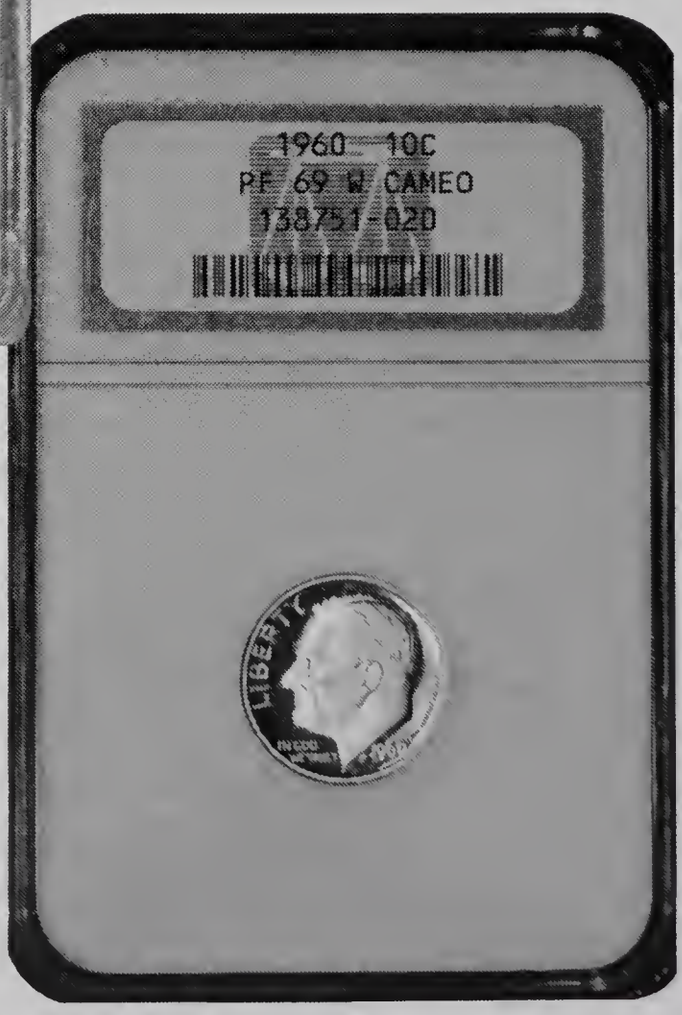
"Excellent Proof Sets" continued.

The Proofs of 1963

By 1963, the number of proofs dropped a bit, but still remained above the three million mark. Therefore, reassembling a proof set here should not be too costly either. And as with the first two, the prices for the smaller denominations have not really changed. Pleasantly, the price of the Franklin half is once again at about $80.







A few notes about pricing proof coins: Special designations affect value. Coins slabbed with DCAM or Ultra Cameo (Cameo- a reference to the contrasty finish of frosted devices against the darkest mirror fields) are the highest quality proof coins in terms of eye appeal. Varieties can add value as well, such as the accented hair Kennedy Proof Half shown on the next page.

"Excellent Proof Sets" cont'd, pg 20.

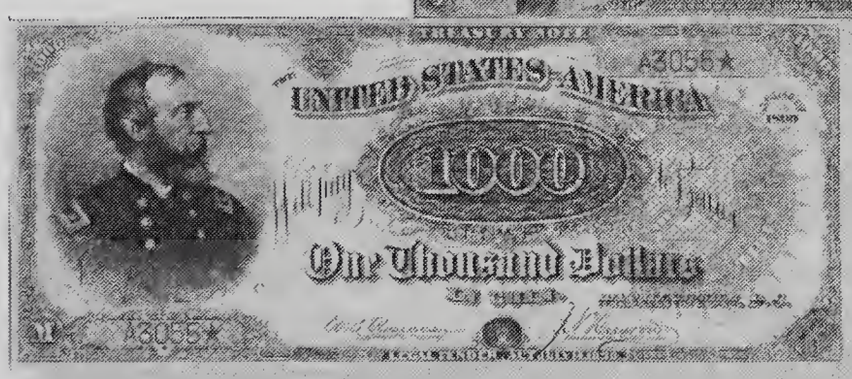
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"Excellent Proof Sets" continued from page 18.

The Proofs of 1964, the Lone Kennedy



We have included this one year with a Kennedy half dollar because this is the only year in which all the new half dollars were made in 90% silver. The number of proof sets rose almost to 4 million, and that coupled with the fact that the Kennedy is still a current design means the cost for a PF-67 is only about $50. This in turn means that the 1964 proof set can be reassembled for less than $100. Not bad at all!

If you undertake this effort at reassembling and collecting such proof sets, a word of advice might be in order: buy the PF-67 or higher coins in some third party encapsulated holder. Even if you are a true fan of raw coins that have not been slabbed, the slab gives a certain guarantee. There's nothing worse than buying a proof coin which you think is a real gem, only to find out later (perhaps when you choose to sell it) that the grade is considered to be something like a PF-64, or that there is some small mark on it that detracts from its value. This caveat is especially apt for the Franklin half dollars. Aficionados of the series pay premiums for full bell line specimens– meaning coins on which the lines of the Liberty Bell are completely delineated. Slabbed Franklin halves which have such delineation are usually labelled "FBL" after the grade and do command a premium.

There's some fun to be had when it comes to modern proofs, and reassembling sets. All four of those we have mentioned here are at least 50 years old. Putting them back together may just prove to be the start of some great collecting. ✻

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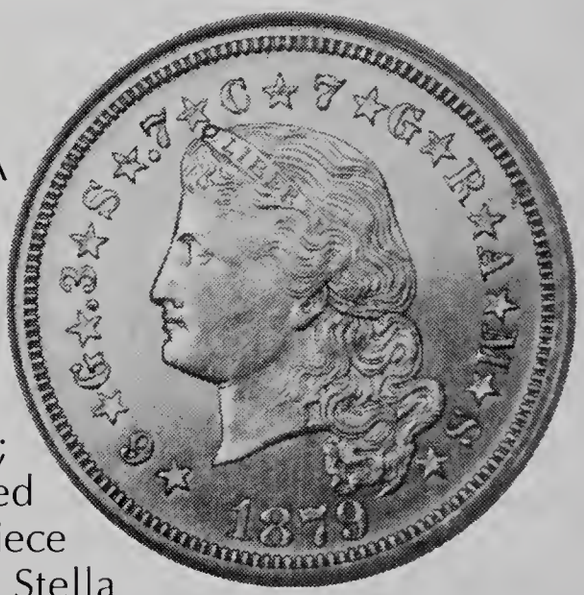
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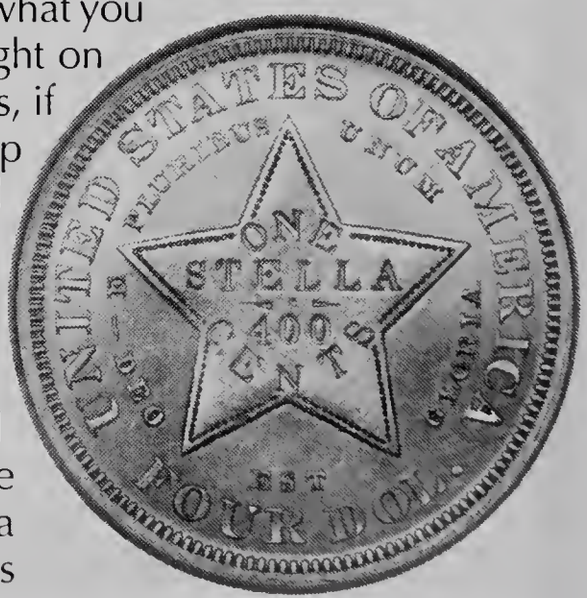
Patrick Kut & Michael Jurlow

The 2014 World's Fair of Money was a bustling sea of activity. From the controversy chasing the elusive Gold Kennedy Half to the vast displays of scarce high grade specialty coins and from fascinating exhibits to multi-million dollar auctions, this ANA show had its share of stories and excitement. Patrick Kut, ILNA Youth Numismatist Ambassador, offers his point of view on a chase of his own: Knowledge thru Numismatics. Special thanks for sharing your experience with our readers!

MY VISIT TO THE ANA WORLD'S FAIR OF MONEY *– Patrick Kut*



This time I will be writing about the ANA World's Fair of Money Convention in Chicago. I went on Thursday, August 7. They had various activities going on that day including a Trivia Game. You would go around to different tables with a paper with questions on it—such as; "What was the name given to the United States $4 gold pattern piece? (A pattern piece is not made to circulate) A. Bertha B. Stella C. Little Louie– and you would tell a person what you thought the answer was and if you got it right on the first try they would give a couple of coins, if you didn't they would give you hints to help you with the question. When you finished with all of the questions you would go to the ANA booth and you would get various coins and coin related things. For example, I got a 1939 Mercury Dime. I liked the trivia part the best, because I got coins for free and learned more about coins, but there were also a lot of other cool things. There were a lot of different types of interesting collections people put together to win prizes. A very large number of coin dealers were there with a wide variety of coins and currency. It was a great opportunity to see a lot of coins that I had never seen before. I would recommend going to it next year if you are able. ✻



Images courtesy of Heritage Auctions. The lady pictured above was Lot #5645, 1879 $4 Flowing Hair, "Stella" pattern, NGC PR60 from the Heritage ANA US Coins Signature Auction, August, 2014.

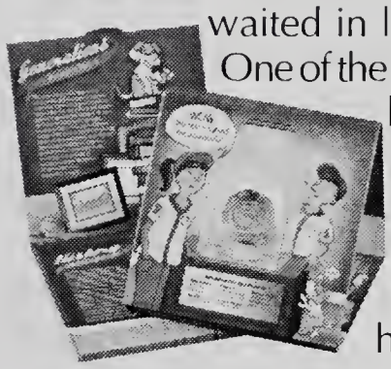
THE NEW BASEBALL COMMEMORATIVES

–Michael Jurlow





Each year, the U.S. Mint creates new commemorative coins. For 2014, the two most popular being the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, and the other being a Baseball Hall of Fame coin. The Baseball Hall of Fame coin became very popular and people waited in lines for one at a major show. One of the reasons why it was so popular is because it is the first ever curved coin. The U.S. Mint produced a proof and uncirculated half dollar, dollar, and a gold five dollar piece. I happened to buy one of the uncirculated half dollars, and I am very pleased with the coin.



John F. Kennedy

Remebering the 35th President of the United States

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L	E	M	X	O	M	R	N	H	V	T	O	T	P	A
A	A	J	V	B	R	T	I	Q	W	T	T	N	A	C
W	C	Q	F	E	E	S	K	A	A	E	Y	E	C	Q
N	E	M	L	R	H	A	R	N	S	V	N	D	E	U
I	C	O	I	T	G	C	E	U	A	T	C	I	P	E
L	O	P	P	S	O	S	H	N	U	I	J	S	R	L
R	R	E	S	L	S	C	T	S	V	W	X	E	O	I
E	P	L	D	I	A	I	U	I	U	Y	I	R	G	N
B	S	W	T	S	H	E	L	O	Y	R	F	P	R	E
E	A	J	S	P	D	R	N	E	L	D	H	S	A	O
R	I	A	E	E	I	C	I	I	C	L	D	K	M	N
S	M	S	B	G	N	M	T	Z	L	R	O	E	R	A
W	O	A	H	L	O	T	R	J	U	K	I	P	T	S
J	T	T	Z	L	X	Q	A	I	O	L	O	S	A	S
E	S	L	E	D	I	F	M	R	O	S	E	O	I	I
L	Y	N	D	O	N	J	O	H	N	S	O	N	R	S
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COINAGE AND MEDALS OF JOHN F. KENNEDY– A PHOTO ESSAY

TIMOTHY GUEST

This editor would like to ackowledge ILNA Treasurer Bill Burd and the Library at Chicago Coin Company in the preparation of this photo essay. In addition to providing much of the subject matter, Bill also offered an excellent resource book detailing many of these items. Your generosity to the numismatic community is greatly understimated. Special thanks again to Bill and the staff at Chicago Coin Company.



Little doubt that many millions of dollars have been made pushing products that commemorate– or sell– the life of our great fallen leader, 35th President John F. Kennedy. And although his image and legacy still lives on through the production of our nation's half dollar coins for the last fifty years, occasionally numismatic items emerge that are significant, scarce or valuable. In view of our Annual Convention theme, I would hope to embrace and share a little *Knowledge Thru Numismatics*.

Much of the information gathered for the notes contained herein should be attributed to The Medallic Portraits of John F. Kennedy, A Study of Kennediana, by Edward C. Rochette and published by Krause Publications, Iola, WI, 1966.

KENNEDY INAUGURATION, JANUARY 20, 1961



1961 Inaugural Medal– Obverse.

Official Inaugural Medal designed by Paul Manship struck in silver and bronze by the Medallic Arts Company.

"Kennedy Medals" continued on page 26.

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MEMBERS ANA & ILNA

"Kennedy Medals" continued from page 24.



1961 Inaugural Medal– Reverse.
In silver, #3977 of 7500. The first ten were set aside for members of Kennedy's Cabinet. 20,000 bronze medals were produced along with a single gold specimen presented to President Kennedy.



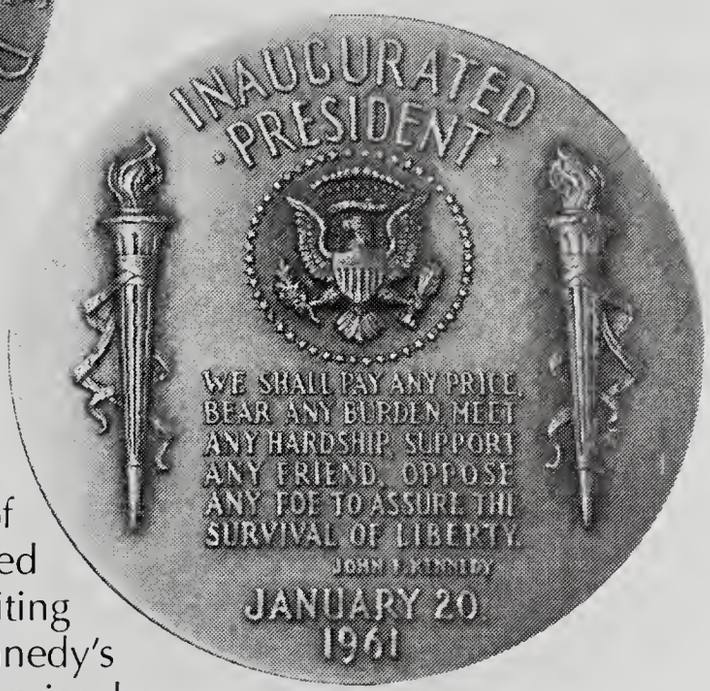
As authorized by the 1961 Inaugural Committee and seen here in its original packaging with pamphlet describing the history of the medal, these were distributed as official inaugural souvenirs. The first inaugural medal was struck in honor of the second term of then President William McKinley in 1901. The enclosed pamphlet states, "Since the inauguration of President Hoover the replicas in bronze and silver have been made available to the public by popular demand. The value of these replicas has increased to such an extent that some of the early bronze medals are worth many times their original cost."

"Kennedy Medals" continues next page ☛



1961 Official Presidential Series.

Struck by the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia of bronze, the portrait created by sculptor and U.S. Mint Chief Engraver Gilroy Roberts became the basis for the obverse design of our current Kennedy Half Dollar.



Of Presidents in recent memory, John F. Kennedy's shining optimism and faith in American exceptionalism made him perhaps the most quotable national leader of the last century. The reverse designed by Frank Gasparro reflects this uniting characteristic in quoting from Kennedy's inaugural address: "We shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival of liberty." A statement of firm, sophisticated resolve reminiscent of Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty, or give me death." Absolutely awe-inspiring? YES. Am I editorializing? YES. Consider the threat of Cold War nuclear missiles pointed at our homes from ninety miles away. Consider the spine with which he led our nation as we stood together against the threat of communism. It is no wonder our nation mourned the way it did at his death.



"Kennedy Medals" continued on page 28.

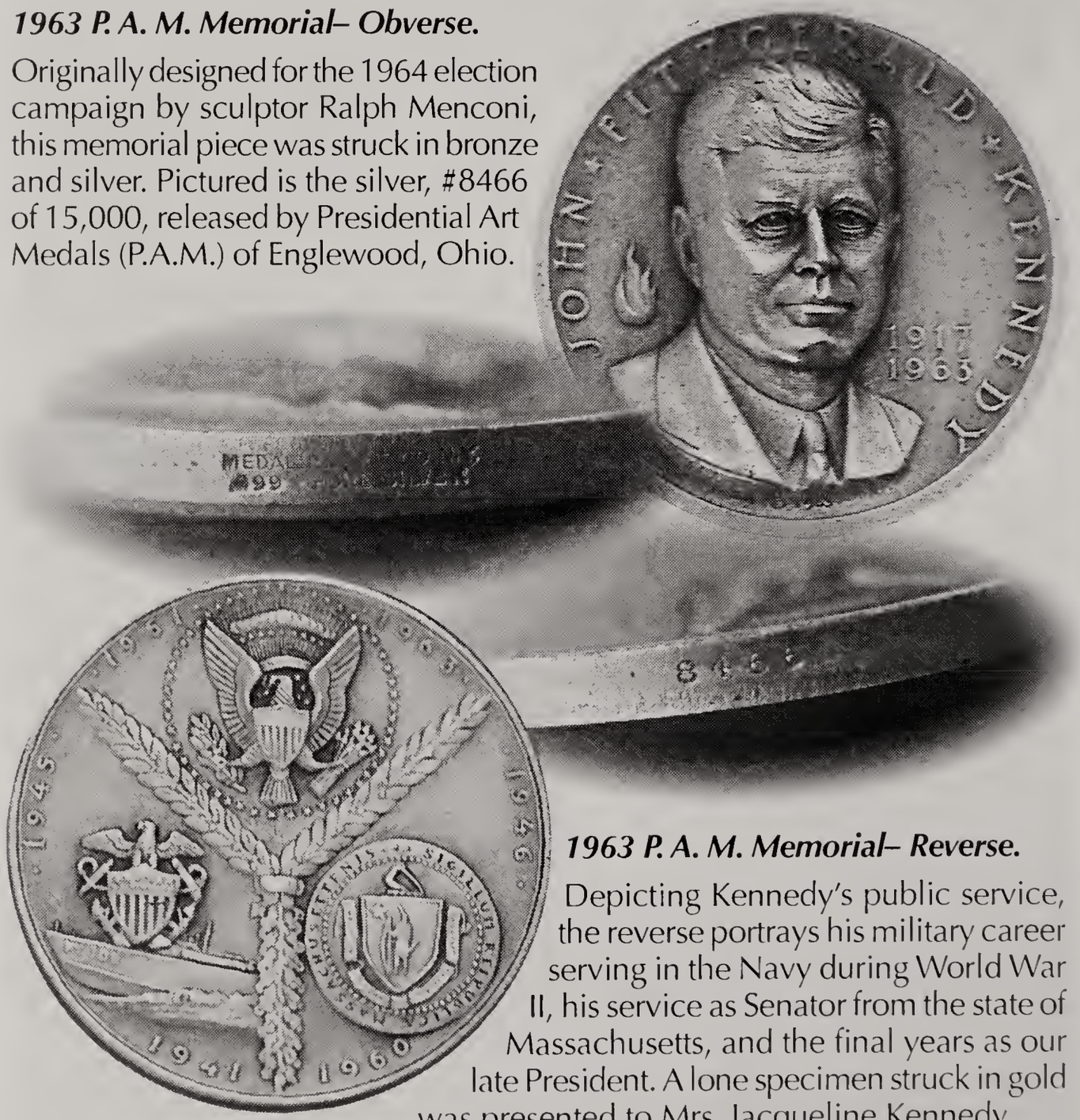
"Kennedy Medals" continued from page 27.

IN MEMORIAM, NOVEMBER 22, 1963

The source material for this essay, *Medallic Portraits of John F. Kennedy,* published in 1966, catalogs dozens of memorial medals both domestic and foreign. From page 68, author Edward C. Rochette writes: "...that so many medals should have been issued in so short a time following his death is no small indication of the respect and high esteem felt for him, both at home and abroad."

1963 P. A. M. Memorial– Obverse.

Originally designed for the 1964 election campaign by sculptor Ralph Menconi, this memorial piece was struck in bronze and silver. Pictured is the silver, #8466 of 15,000, released by Presidential Art Medals (P.A.M.) of Englewood, Ohio.



1963 P. A. M. Memorial– Reverse.

Depicting Kennedy's public service, the reverse portrays his military career serving in the Navy during World War II, his service as Senator from the state of Massachusetts, and the final years as our late President. A lone specimen struck in gold was presented to Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy.

Estimates put the number of visitors to Kennedy's gravesite at Arlington Cemetery during the three years following his death at 16 million. Dozens of companies producing medals by the thousands. Though it would appear that sales of the medals were meant to profit from tragedy, Rochette mentions in his book that, "...the majority of the medals are in themselves expressions of grief." Mementos produced even unto today as bullion, commemoratives or U.S. Mint issues.

"Kennedy Medals" continued on page 30.



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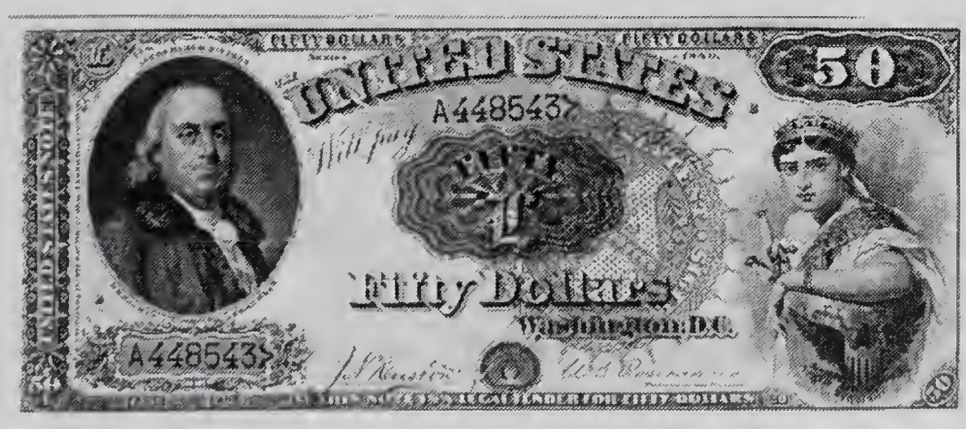
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"Kennedy Medals" continued from page 28.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

Here we are, decades after Kennedy's assassination, and products tied to his image have been the subject of many coins and ingots bridging that span of time. Commercialization? Maybe, but I would prefer to think that people who want bullion coins and ingots for souvenirs are going to buy silver or gold anyway. Favorable subject matter is merely a bonus. Here are just a few examples:



In Silver...



...and Gold.

THE U.S. MINT AND THE CURRENT KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR DESIGN

Originally known as the Kennedy Memorial Half Dollar, it bears the distinction of being a single year type as 1964, its first year of issue, was the final year of 90% silver coinage. The first year saw a major variety emerge with the "Accented Hair" proof. Though not made for circulation since 2001, production of Kennedy Halves continues today after fifty years of circulation, mint set and proof pieces and the newly introduced 2014 50th Anniversary Gold Proof Coin.



The 1964 Proof "Accented Hair" with additional detail engraved beneath Kennedy's hairline, yet above the ear.



50th Anniversary Coins.



The 1998-S Matte Proof Kennedy Half Dollar, with approximately 62,000 minted, could only be purchased in the U.S. Mint's Kennedy Collector's Set. Valued at substantially more than the issue price of $59.95, it is regarded as the key for the series. ✻

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Board Meeting Minutes

YOUR ILNA COIN CLUB BUSINESS FROM ILNA SECRETARY JOHN SCHIKORA

The ILNA Summer, 2014 Board Meeting was held at the Northfield Center, Springfield, Illinois on Sunday, July 27th, 2014.

ROLL CALL

President Steve Harrison called the meeting to order at 2:00pm. Also in attendance were Secretary John Schikora, Treasurer Bill Burd, Chairman of the Board Steve Butler, Governors Jim Paicz, Brian Jaskierski, Brian Heil, Joyce Paicz and Richard Prouty. Vice President Andrew Reiber and Governors Tim Guest, Bruce Perdue and Kevin Timmons each had an excused absence.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Steve Harrison asked if all board members read the minutes from the spring meeting. After review Brian Jaskierski motioned to accept the spring meeting minutes, seconded by Jim Paicz, passed unanimously. The board was updated on State Bill 1778 detailing the reporting and holding of numismatic and precious metal items. Once the bill is signed into law coin dealers will continue to be exempt from reporting and holding coins, paper money and bullion. They will only have to report and hold scrap gold and jewelry for a five to ten day period. The task force which Steve Harrison serves on will then proceed to the City of Chicago and ask them to enact the same law for coin dealers.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill Burd reported a January 1, 2014 balance of $89,567.00 with revenue of $6269.00 and expenses of $7188.00 leaving a June 30, 2014 balance of $88,648.00. Richard Prouty motioned to accept the report as read, seconded by Jim Paicz, passed unanimously.

DIGEST EDITOR'S REPORT

Steve Harrison read an e-mail from Tim Guest asking all board member letters for print to be received by August 1st.

LIBRARY BOOK REPORT

Bill Burd reported all books were shipped to the 48 libraries and two packages were returned. It was decided to send the returned books to two other libraries that have not received book donations.

BOURSE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Jim Paicz reported 119 of 220 tables have been sold for the ILNA show. The youth auction will be held and a new auctioneer will be needed. Educational seminars are scheduled for the show and will be printed on the new show fliers. The topic of issuing 2014 elongated Kennedy Half Dollars was discussed. Jim Paicz will contact two individuals who make elongated dies and receive quotes. The topic of the 2015 Bourse Chairman was discussed and the Board asked to retain Jim Paicz. Richard Prouty motioned for Jim Paicz as 2015 Bourse Chairman, seconded by Bill Burd, passed unanimously except for Jim Paicz who abstained.

"Summer 2014 Board Meeting Minutes" continued on page 34.

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Patrick Devine, Phone: 217 787-3241

"Summer 2014 Board Meeting Minutes" continued from page 32.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Joyce Paicz reported ILNA currently has 380 members consisting of 176 regular, 59 youth, 115 life and 30 club. A topic of increasing ILNA membership was discussed. Brian Jaskierski suggested putting a membership application on the show flier.

YOUTH AMBASSADOR

Steve Harrison will contact the two youth ambassadors and inform them to e-mail their *Digest* letters to Tim Guest by August 11th.

NEW BUSINESS

ILNA will be hosting a club table at the ANA convention. John Schikora will e-mail a time schedule for board members to fill. The next board meeting will be at the Tinley Park Convention Center ILNA show on September 12th at 4:00pm on the bourse floor.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:16pm Brian Heil made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Brian Jaskierski, passed unanimously. ❋

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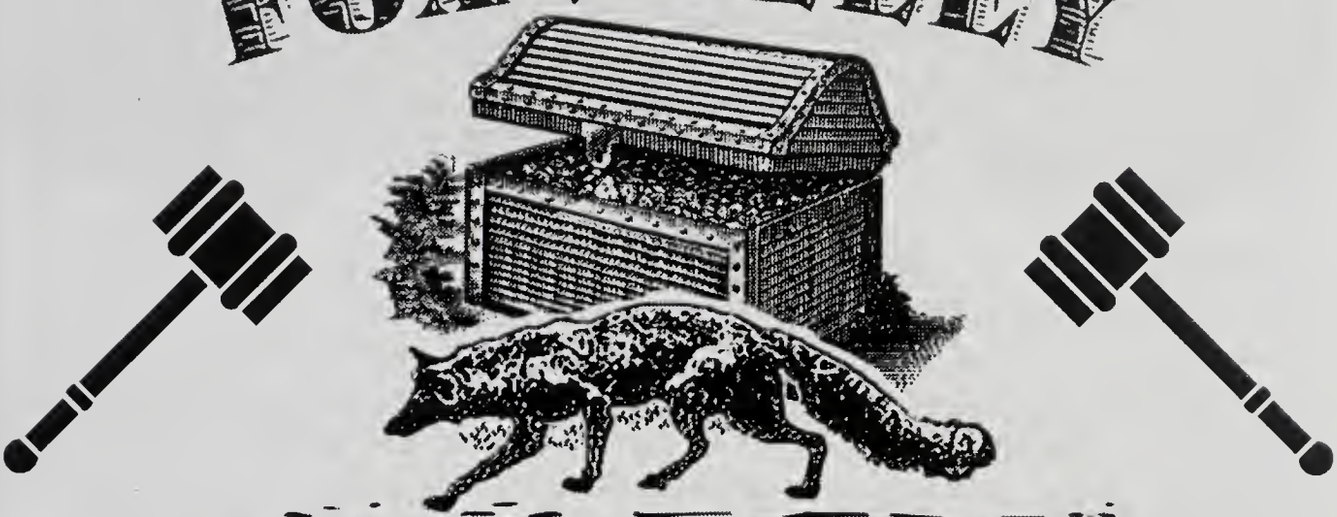
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DIGEST EDITOR

Timothy Guest

So here we are as an organization adding the finishing touches to the 55th Annual ILNA Convention. Jim and Joyce Paicz along with the ILNA Board are working in conjunction with the Chicago Coin Club to provide one of the highest quality professional level state shows that can be found in our hobby. The seminar program offered to our members and the general public can positively impact collectors and professionals alike from ages eight to eighty. These people are serious about providing *Knowledge Thru Numismatics*.

Everyone on this Board works together to make our only annual fundraiser something meaningful for the families and collectors who attend. Their combined experience helps us to reach out to more people making the show a worthwhile draw for the quality dealers we attract as well. Having Morrison Security on board helps to provide a secure environment for show attendees and dealers alike. The show is a value for everyone– even the parking is free and convenient with no admission fee to the public.

In my four years as *Digest* Editor, many people have worked together with me to make this publication the best it could possibly be. ILNA Treasurer Bill Burd and the Library at Chicago Coin Company have always been a light, providing material to photograph and for general research in helping this publication to reach others in ILNA's goal of providing *Knowledge Thru Numismatics*. Regular contributions from Mark Benvenuto, James Sego at JMS Coins, Insight3's Jeff Paunicka and others add plenty of flavor to this *Digest* and deserve special thanks. Thanks also to the ILNA Board Members who regularly contribute not just to this publication, but also to growing numismatics throughout our state.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming convention!

Sincerest Best Wishes to all!

Timothy Guest,

Editor Emeritus

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NOVEMBER 16, 2014



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Steve Rassi (309) 263-0739

September 11-13, ILNA's 55th Annual Coin and Currency Show– Tinley Park, IL. Location: Holiday Inn - Tinley Park Convention Center, 18451 S. Harlem Ave., Tinley Park, IL 60477. 220 Dealer Tables starting at only $250, Early Bird Badges: $50. Admission: Free. Daily Educational Seminars with Youth Auction to be held Saturday, September 13th. Dealers Contact: Bourse Chairman Jim Paicz, P.O. Box 628, Richton Park, IL 60471. Email: paiczj@aol.com or Phone 708-670-3469. Visit Illinois Numismatic Association website for updates at www.ilnaclub.info.

September 21, (Sunday) Tazewell Numismatic Society 54th Annual Show, 9 AM to 3:00 PM, Pekin, IL. Location: Pekin Moose Lodge, 2605 Broadway Rd., Pekin, IL Tables: 60, Fee: $50, Admission: Free. Prize drawings held for youth collectors. Contact: Steve Rassi, PO Box 696, Pekin, IL, 61554. Phone: (309) 263-0739.

October 5 (Sunday), Metro East Coin & Currency Club Show– Location: American Legion Hall, 1022 Vandalia Ave. (Route 159), Collinsville, IL. 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. Contact: Richard Javurek, 407 Beltline Rd., Box 227, Collinsville, IL 62234, Phone: (618) 660-5842. Email shoreline58@sbcglobal.net.

October 11 (Saturday), Oak Forest Numismatic Society Coin and Collectible Show– Location: Trinity Lutheran School Gymnasium, 6850 W 159th Street, Tinley Park, IL 60477 from 10am to 3pm. The show will feature 40 tables. Call Judy at (708) 772-3664 or email judysparkles@comcast.net for more details.

October 12 (Sunday), Fairfield Coin Club 44th Annual Coin Show– Fairfield, IL from 9AM to 4PM. Location: North Side Grade School, 806 North First Street Fairfield, IL, 62837. Tables: $25; Admission is free. 20 dealers to serve you. Club awards presentation, hourly door prizes and raffle drawing. Public and youth auctions held in conjunction with the show. For more information, contact Roberta Marshel, Treasurer/Secretary, (618)-599-2393, or fairfieldcoinclub@gmail.com.

October 12th (Sunday) Mattoon Coin Club 54th Annual Coin Show– 9 AM to 3 PM, Mattoon Moose Lodge, 1212 Broadway Ave. (1 block North of Charleston Ave. (IL Rt. 16) between 12th and 13th Sts.), Mattoon, IL. Tables: 25; Free admission. Contact: Robert Ohm, P.O. Box 143, Mattoon, IL 61938-0143, Phone: 217-234-2585 or Club President Michael Doran 217-663-0276, Email: mattooncoinclub@yahoo.com.

October 26 (Sunday), Elgin Coin Club 51st Annual Show– Location: Elgin Moose Family Center, 925 S. McLean Blvd., Elgin, Il. 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. Free Admission. Contact: Don Cerny, 847-888-1449, P.O. Box 631, South Elgin, IL 60177

November 2 (Sunday), Champaign-Urbana Coin and Currency Club Annual Show, Location: Urbana Civic Center, 108 Water St., Urbana, IL. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tables: 32. Admission: Free. Contact: Clyde Sweet, PO Box 1021, Champaign, IL 61824. Phone: 217-840-2526. E-mail: cwsweet3@msn.com.

November 7-8, Indiana State Numismatic Association 55th Annual Show, Friday- 10AM to 6PM/Saturday 10AM to 5PM. Location: Indianapolis Marriott (Liberty Hall) 7202 East 21st St., Indianapolis, IN. Admission: Free. Contact: Joyce Fischer, 1123 West 8th Street, Anderson, IN 46016. Phone: (765) 649-0253, email: kycolonels@comcast.net.

Local Shows

November 9, (Sunday) Central Illinois Numismatic Association 25th Annual Fall Coin Show– Location: Northfield Center I, Northfield Drive and Dirksen Parkway (3280 Northfield Drive) Springfield, IL. Tables: 70, Fee: $60, Admission: $1 C.I.N.A. Members and children 16 and under are free. Contact Pat Devine (217) 787-3241.

November 9 (Sunday), Dixon Coin Club Annual Coin Show– Location: 1560 Franklin Grove Rd. (IL Rte 38), Dixon, IL 61021. 40 Tables, Fee: $45 for the 1st, $25 ea. additional; Tables are 6 Ft., Dealer Setup: 7AM. Admission is free 9AM to 4PM. Contact Jerry Bartlett, (815) 535-8427, jbartlett@thewisp.net, or Jack Lawyer, (815) 284-9157.

November 16, (Sunday) Tazewell Numismatic Society 21st Holiday Show, 9 AM to 3:00 PM, Pekin, IL. Location: Pekin Moose Lodge, 2605 Broadway Rd., Pekin, IL Tables: 60, Fee: $50, Admission: Free. Prize drawings held for youth collectors. Contact: Steve Rassi, PO Box 696, Pekin, IL, 61554. Phone: (309) 263-0739.

February 26-28, 2015 (Thur-Sat), Greater Chicago Coin, Currency and Collectible Show– Tinley Park, IL. Location: Holiday Inn – Tinley Park Convention Center 18451 Convention Center Rd., Tinley Park, IL 60477. 220 Dealer Tables starting at only $275, Early Bird Badges: $50. Admission: Free. Dealers Contact: Bourse Chairman Jim Paicz, P.O. Box 628, Richton Park, IL 60471. Email: paiczj@aol.com or Phone 708-670-3469. www.chicagocoinshow.com. ✳

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Local Clubs

Central Illinois Numismatic Association. Meetings: Second Thursday of each month except August and December, 7:00 P.M. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, North Council #4175, 2801 West St., Springfield, IL. Information: Jay Peniwell, 4 Oak Ridge Dr. Decatur, IL. 62521. Phone 217-428-9853.

Champaign-Urbana Coin and Currency Club. Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7:30 P.M. at the Urbana Civic Center, 108 Water St., Urbana, Illinois. Information: Clyde Sweet, P.O. Box 1021, Champaign, IL, 61824. Phone: 217-840-2526, email: cwsweet3@msn.com.

Chicago Coin Club. Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month, January thru November, 6:45 P.M. at Chicago Bar Association Building, 321 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago, IL 60604 and The Chicago Coin Club holds meetings at several coin and paper money shows. Information: Chicago Coin Club, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL. 60690. Phone 773-878-8979 or email Carl Wolf at carlwolfco@msn.com.

Club of Illinois NumismatistS (C.O.I.N.S. Club). Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 P.M. at the Hazel Crest Park District Community Center, 2600 West 171st Street, Hazel Crest, IL. Information: (Mailing address) C.O.I.N.S. Club, P.O. Box 849, Hazel Crest, IL, 60429.

Corn Belt Coin Club. Meetings: First Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M. at the Bank of Illinois, 200 W. College Ave., Normal, IL. Information: Phone Jeff Stover 309-532-3205.

Danville Coin Club. Meetings: Third Monday of each month, 7:00 P.M. at the Palmer American Bank, Danville, IL. Information: Danville Coin Club, 2816 Baumgart, Danville, IL, 61832. Phone: 217-443-6942.

Dixon Coin Club. Meetings: First Tuesday of each month, VFW Post #540, 1560 Franklin Grove Rd., Dixon, IL. 61021. Coin grading at 6:00 P.M. Meeting and auction at 7:00 P.M. Contact Jerry Bartlett, 815-535-8427.

Dupo Coin Club. Meetings: Third Monday of each month, 7:00 P.M. at the V.F.W. Hall, 200 N. 5th St., Dupo, IL. Information: Phone James Addington at 618-407-1994.

Edgar County Coin Club. Meetings: Third Sunday of each month, 2:00 P.M. at the Chamber of Commerce, 105 N. Central, Paris, IL. Information: Pat Brazelton, 1231 N. High St., Paris, IL, 61944. Phone: 217-463-2217. Email: pbraz@joink.com.

Elgin Coin Club. Meetings: First Wednesday of each month, 7:00 P.M. at the Elgin Moose Lodge, 925 S. McLean, Elgin, Il 60123. Information: Elgin Coin Club, P.O. Box 561, South Elgin, IL, 60177.

Local Clubs

Fairfield Coin Club. Meetings: Second Sunday of each Month (Except the October Annual Show held second Sunday), 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at Frontier College, (Highway 45-15 West) 2 Frontier Drive, Fairfield, IL. Information: Roberta Marshel 631 County Road 870 E, Sims, Illinois, 62886. Phone: 618-599-2393. E-mail: fairfieldcoinclub@gmail.com.

Hillsboro Hiltop Coin Club. Meetings: Last Wednesday of each month, 7:30 P.M. (except July) at the Challacombe House, 509 School St., Hillsboro, IL. Information: Hiltop Coin Club, P.O. Box 22, Gillespie, IL, 62033. Email: hiltopcc@yahoo.com.

Hillside Coin Club. Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7:00 P.M. at the Hillside Community Center, 1 Lind Street, Hillside, IL. Information: www.worksandwords.com/hcc or visit the Hillside Coin Club Facebook page. Email: hillsidecoinclub@gmail.com.

Indian Hill Coin Club. Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month, 8:00 P.M. at the Avon Township Hall, Washington St. in Round Lake Park. Information: Mike Hanninen, 2400 Horeb Ave., Zion, IL, 60099.

Lake County Coin Club. Meetings: First Tuesday of each month, 7:00 P.M. at the Gurnee Police Dept., 100 N. O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL, NW corner of Washington and O'Plaine. Information: www.lakecountycoinclub-il.com. Email: lakecountycoinclub@gmail.com.

Mattoon Coin Club. Meetings: First Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M., Community Room at the Mattoon YMCA, 221 N. 16th St., Mattoon, IL. Contact: Michael Doran, (217) 663-0276, E-mail: mattooncoinclub@yahoo.com.

Metro East Coin & Currency Club. Meetings Third Tuesday of September thru November, and January thru April, 7:00 PM. Mailing address: 407 Beltline Rd., Box 227, Collinsville, IL 62234. Please email shoreline58@sbcglobal.net for meeting location.

Oak Forest Numismatic Society. Meetings: First Friday of each month, 7:30 P.M. at the Oak Forest Community Center, 15501 S. Kilpatrick, Oak Forest, IL. Information: OFNS, P.O. Box 287, Oak Forest, IL, 60452.

Quad-City Coin Club. Meetings: Third Thursday of each month, 7:30 P.M. at the Calvary Lutheran Church, 2900 Avenue of the Cities, Moline, IL. Information: Quad City Coin Club, P.O. Box 332, Moline, IL, 61266.

Rantoul Coin Club. Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 P.M. Temporarily at the American Lutheran Church, 500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL, Information: RCC, 203 E. Campbell St., Rantoul, IL, 61866.

Local Clubs

Rockford Area Coin Club. Meetings: Third Thursday of each month, 6:00 P.M. at the Loves Park Library, 6340 N. Second St., Loves Park, IL (Just north of Rockford). Information: Don Smith, 100 W. Main, Rockton, IL, 61072, Phone Daytime 815 624-0422.

Tazewell Numismatic Society. Meetings: First Thursday of each month at the First United Methodist Church, 1315 Court Street (Across from hospital), Pekin, IL. Time: 7:00 P.M. Information: D. Freidinger, P.O. Box 1203, Pekin, IL 61555-1203. Phone 309-353-6178.

Wat-cha-kee Coin Club. Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m. (No meeting June, July, or August) at First Methodist Church, 304 S. Fourth, Watseka, IL, Information: Phone Kermit Wasmer at 815-432-4636.

Will County Coin Club. Meetings: First Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Plainfield Fire Protection District, 15025 S. Des Plaines Road, Plainfield, Illinois (enter through the side door by the parking lot). Information: Mark Wieclaw, 175 W. Wood St., New Lenox, IL, 60451, or phone 815-485-4137.

✔ *Please inform ILNA as soon as possible of show dates. We will post the dates on our website and in the next ILNA Coin Digest. Email all show and club information to: Digest Editor Tim Guest at ILNADigestEditor@aol.com.* ✳

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